



DCV TRAVELLER

DESCENDANTS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
A TEXAS BASED ASSOCIATION WITH CHAPTERS IN TEXAS AND SOUTH CAROLINA

www.DCVTX.org

Spring 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:
Steve Lucas



It is indeed an honor and a privilege to be addressing you as the newly elected President of the DCV Board of Directors. To hold such high office in such a prestigious organization is humbling as well as challenging and I pledge to you my best effort as we continue to make progress in honoring those who have gone before us. Thank you all for your confidence in me.

Thanks also to Immediate Past President J. D. Boydston and his wonderful staff for their great work and leadership. We will try to live up to their fine example of dedication and setting the bar high. J. D. honored me with this year's President's Award at the reunion and it is certainly an honor to receive such an award in the presence of such high-achieving men and women who work so hard year in and year out for our beloved organization. My thanks to J. D. and to each of our magnificent members. Thanks also go to our outgoing DCV Board members J. D. Denton, J. D. Boydston and David Routh for their dedicated service during their terms and to also welcome newly elected Board members Carl Hedges, Sam Bennett and first-time Board member Larry Joe Reynolds. Carl and Sam will resume their offices as Membership Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively, and Joe Reynolds will be a General Board Member.

For those of you who could not make the reunion in Mansfield, LA a few weeks ago...you missed a great one. It was certainly worth the drive and I congratulate our East Texas Chapter for once again putting on a great event. The food was outstanding, the battlefields were magnificent, the presentation by the Mansfield Historical Park was wonderful and the camaraderie and visiting with all of our DCV friends and family was second to none. J. D. Boydston told us of his great-great grandfather, George Denman Macomber of the 16th Texas Infantry who had fought at both Mansfield and Pleasant Hill and how he had walked the same ground as Private Macomber. Fellow DCV members, if you have not had the chance to walk the same ground that your ancestor did in battle (or otherwise during his service) please make it a point to do so. You will experience a feeling you will not soon forget. You will make a connection to that person on a level you would not have thought possible. It is truly a moving experience. However far you have to travel to make that happen, please consider doing so. You'll be glad you did.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the attacks on our heritage do not let up. In Texas, the Confederate Heroes Day holiday is again under attack in this session of the Legislature. Each session the enemies of this State holiday grow more numerous and stronger. Not too many years ago the bills in opposition to the holiday were easily defeated in Committee and the opposition died there. The same is not so today. A simple phone call or e-mail to your

Representative and/or Senator in the legislature in support of the holiday will go a long way in keeping it in place. At the national level, the names of the military bases named for our Confederate Heroes are on the verge of being changed. Can you imagine a Texas without a Fort Hood? A North Carolina without a Fort Bragg? A Georgia without a Fort Benning? How many of you or how many of your fathers or grandfathers either trained at, or were assigned to those bases or others named for Confederates? I read two days ago that the Navy is actively in the process of renaming the ship named for Matthew Fontaine Maury. You may not be as familiar with that name as some others but I encourage you to look him up. Hint: He was important enough to have a monument on Monument Avenue in Richmond, VA along with Jefferson Davis, Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee. That is, of course, before they were all removed.

I will do my best to keep you informed of what is going on that affects us as DCV members. We are not a large organization and we are not a wealthy organization but we have shown that we will fight with all our might when we feel our cause is just. I call on each of you to prepare for what may come our way. We know not when, or in what form the challenge or opportunity may present itself. We may see it coming or it may come in the form of an ambush where we find ourselves already surrounded and at a disadvantage. We must be prepared for anything. Knowledge is power. We must know our history. We must know the people in our communities who will help us as well as those who will not. We must know who we can go to and who we can count on when our backs are against the wall. We must develop contacts in the historical community, the political community, the governmental community, etc. We must know who we can trust and who will just give us lip-service when the chips are down. All of these things are not accomplished overnight. Please start now.

Thanks to each of you for all you do, and may the Good Lord continue to bless you all and may he continue to bless our old Southland.

Steve Lucas
DCV Board President

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2023 DCV Annual Reunion Mansfield LA

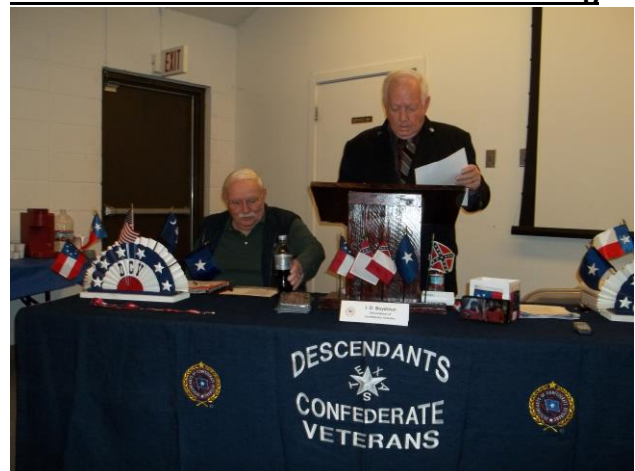
The 18th annual Descendants of Confederate Veterans Membership Reunion and Board of Directors meeting was held on Saturday February 25th at the Mansfield LA Battlefield State Historic Site & Museum.

Early arrivals on Friday gathered at Billy B's Cajun Grill for some fine Louisiana cuisine with fellow members.



This editor's choice. Due to technical difficulties these are the only two photos from Billy B's.

2023 DCV Annual Reunion Business Meeting



President J.D. Boydston called the meeting to order.
DCV Registrar Carl Hedges

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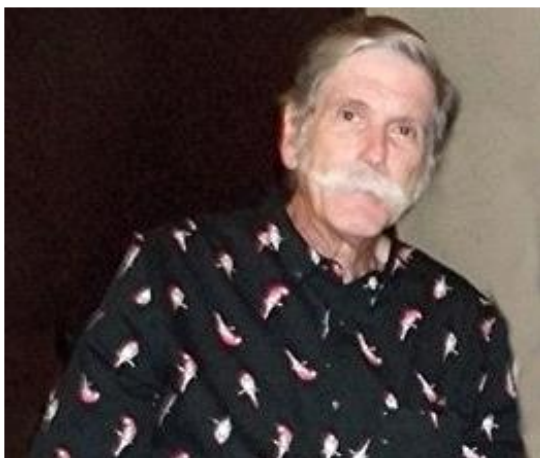
Business Meeting cont.

Ernie Hales and member Bob Jones of the 1st Lt. W. E. James Chapter in South Carolina were present at the meeting via video call.

President Boydstun welcomed the attendees and a Certificate of Appreciation was presented to the Mansfield State Historical Site for their kindness and generosity in allowing us the free use of their facilities.



President Boydstun spoke about his Great-great grandfather, Pvt. George Denman Macomber, 16th Texas Infantry Regiment who was present on the battlefield and also at Pleasant Hill. He told about the pride he took from that and how being at this place had a special meaning for him.



Dr. Samuel Bennett gave the treasurer's report, a copy of which is available to any member in good standing by request. Dr. Bennett reported the DCV has no outstanding debts and everything is current with the IRS.

Continued Top of Page

Business Meeting cont.



Carl Hedges gave the registrar's report in which he announced 18 new members had been added to the rolls, 11 of them coming from Mississippi and Virginia.



East Texas Chapter President Terry Hedrick gave a report on East Texas activities. He reported the chapter had recently gained five new members. He spoke of about the highly successful DCV Cemetery Marker placement at the Reeves Chapel Cemetery in Pittsburg, Texas.

Terry reported the chapter received a request from representatives of the Greenwood Cemetery in Longview to place a DCV Cemetery Marker there.

President Boydstun added the Greenwood Cemetery belongs to the City of Longview and is administered by a cemetery board. He has written to various persons seeking permission to place the marker and is awaiting their replies.

If approved Greenwood Cemetery will be the largest marker the East Texas Chapter has undertaken and will be a great opportunity to advance the name and legacy of the Descendants of Confederate Veterans.

Continued Next Page

Business Meeting cont

Due to the importance of possibly getting permission the chapter has placed on hold the Hallsville Cemetery Marker #2. As for Hallsville, the research has been done and the chapter could go out for a bid on it at any time.

Terry Ayers (not pictured) gave the Capitol Chapter report. He stated they currently have 18 members. He noted with the Texas Legislature back in session the chapter, being in Austin is always vigilant in monitoring legislation that would affect our Confederate heritage. This session Rep. Jarvis Johnson (D-Houston) introduced HB 51, a bill to remove Confederate Heroes Day as a state observed holiday. This is the third straight session Rep. Johnson has introduced the same Bill. All prior legislation with the same language have died, left pending in Committee. Terry encourages all members to contact their representative and voice their opposition to the bill.

1st Lt. W.E. James Chapter President Ernie Hales submitted a written report on the many activities this quarter. Because it is extensive and quite remarkable it will be featured later in this newsletter.

New Business,

Dr. Sam Bennett spoke about his idea for a promotional video which would be patriotic and show the difference between the DCV and other similar organizations. He suggested it could be posted on Facebook /YouTube etc. Carl Hedges informed the membership that his granddaughter, Abbie, has experience in making such videos and will report back to us with some sort of presentation at the 2023 mid-year meeting in Hillsboro, Texas.

There were three members of the Board whose terms were expiring: J. D. Boydston, J. D. Denton and David Routh. A board member election was held to fill the three (3) seats.

Nominated were Sam Bennett, Steve Lucas, and Larry Joe Reynolds. All nominations were seconded and each was elected without opposition. The three new board members are: Steve Lucas, Samuel Bennett and Larry Joe Reynolds.

Steve Lucas took the floor commending and thanking outgoing DCV President J.D. Boydston for the outstanding job he did serving as President. Speaking from experience as a founding member, and having served as DCV President more terms than any member, Steve fully understands how difficult the job can be at times, especially now with the cancel culture getting so much attention and momentum.

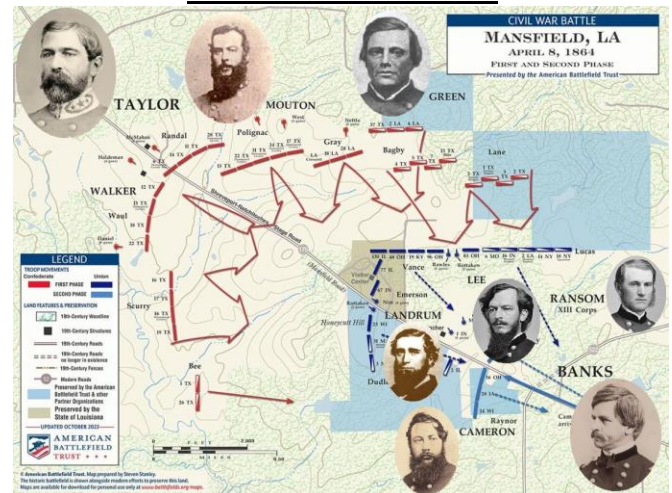
Business Meeting cont

The last order of business by outgoing DCV President J.D. Boydston was the President's Award. The President's Award was presented to Steve Lucas for "Outstanding Achievement in Heritage Preservation and Protection".



The Benediction was given by J. D. Denton and the meeting was adjourned and members convened in the museum for a video presentation of the history of the Battle of Mansfield.

The Battle of Mansfield



The Battle of Mansfield on April 8, 1864, formed part of the Red River Campaign when Union forces were attempting to occupy the Louisiana state capital, Shreveport.

The Confederate commander, Major-General Dick Taylor, chose Mansfield as the place he would make his stand against the Union army under General Nathaniel Banks. Taylor concentrated his forces at Sabine Crossroads. Both sides were reinforced by stages throughout the day. After a brief resistance, the Union army was routed by the Confederates, consisting mainly of units from Louisiana and Texas, reportedly strengthened by hundreds of men breaking parole.

Battle of Mansfield cont.



Monument in the photo is where General Alfred Mouton was killed during the Battle of Mansfield.



**THE LAFAYETTE OF THE SOUTH
PRINCE C.J. DE POLIGNAC**

When General Mouton fell, Prince Camille Armand Jules Marie de Poligna affectionately known by his troops as "General Polecat" sprang to the head of the troops to take the fallen leader's place and lead them to victory.



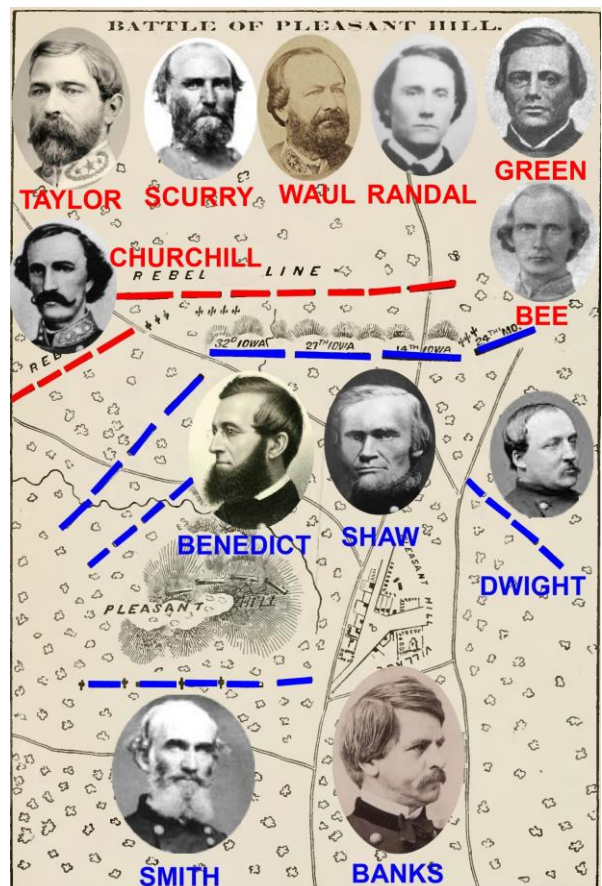
Interior of the Battle of Mansfield Museum

Battle of Mansfield cont.



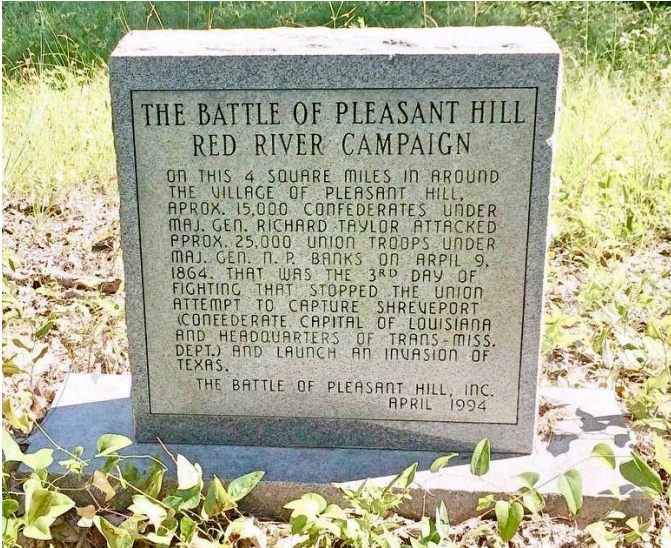
ON TO THE BATTLE OF PLEASANT HILL

The Battle of Pleasant Hill, essentially a continuation of the Battle of Mansfield was fought on April 9, 1864. That battle forced the Union commander, Major General Nathaniel P. Banks to send his wagons, with most of his artillery, downriver in retreat. Both sides had been reinforced through the night. When the Confederate commander, Major General Richard Taylor launched an assault against the Union line it was repulsed at a high cost in casualties. The Union army retreated the next day. The battle was considered to be a Union tactical victory, although some historians consider it to be a draw.



Battle of Pleasant Hill cont.

Some of the historic markers at Pleasant Hill



Battle of Pleasant Hill cont



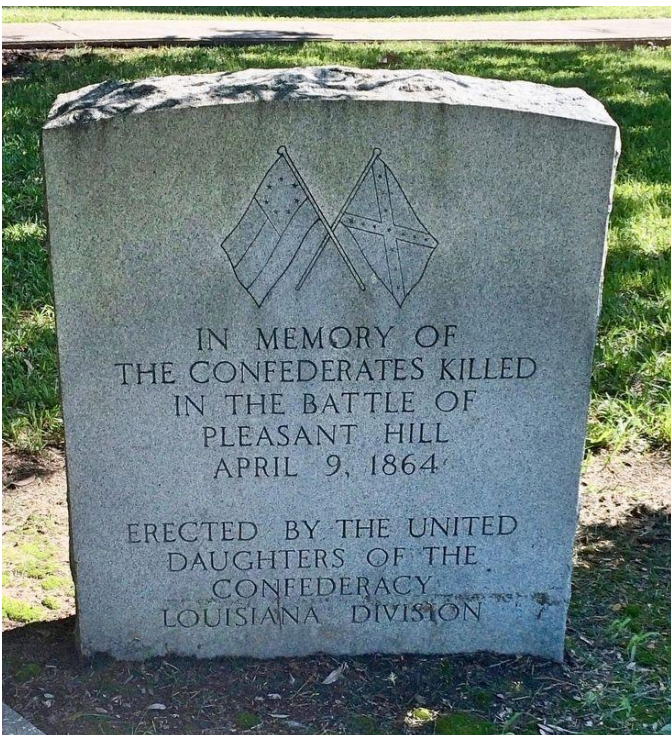
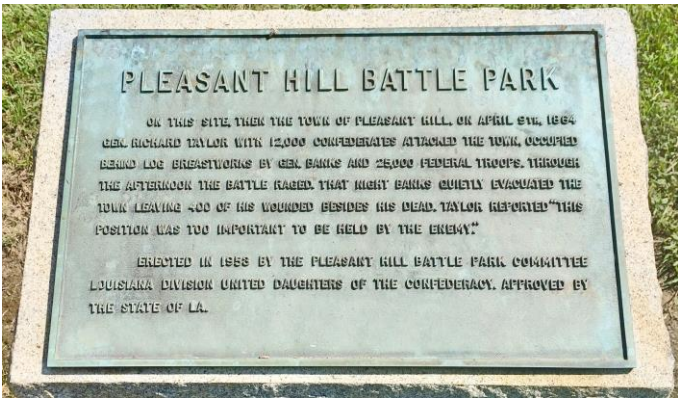
Dog Trot House

Left: J.D. Denton, Terry Hedrick, Sam Bennett, Debbie

Boydston, Rosanna Denton, J.D. Boydston

Center: Carl Hedges, Robbin Hedrick, Steve Lucas

Back: Laurie Works, David Routh, Kay Hilburn, Amy Hilburn



A staff member from the Battle of Pleasant Hill re-enactment and festival committee provided the DCV with a guided tour of the Dog Trot House and other sites at the battlefield.

2023 DCV Annual Reunion Cont.

The 18th annual DCV Reunion concluded in Logansport, LA with dinner at Big Zack's Place.



Big Zack's



Left: J.D. Denton, Laurie Works, Sam Bennett, Kay Hilburn. Right: Terry Hedrick, Robbin Hedrick



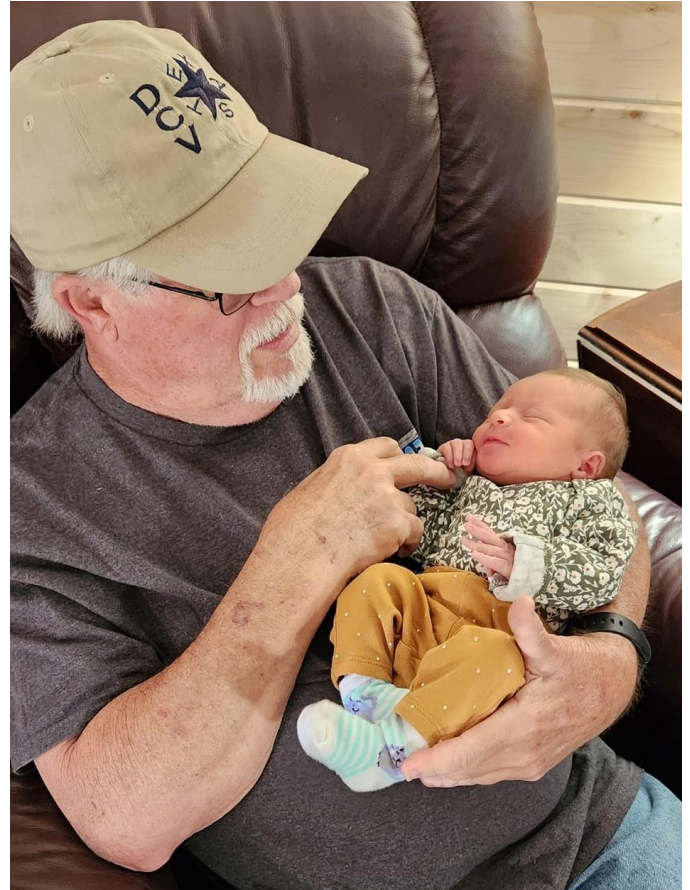
Left: Kay Hilburn, Amy Hilburn Right: Steve Lucas. David Routh, Debbie Boydston, J.D. Boydston, Terry Hedrick, Robbin Hedrick.

1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER, DARLINGTON, SC

Starting off the year on January 12th James Chapter President Ernie Hales and lovely wife Debbie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.



Ernie and Debbie were blessed on March 2nd when granddaughter Brittney Hales Vanadia gave birth to daughter Thalia Lux Vanadia, their first great-grandchild.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HALE FAMILY

1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER, DARLINGTON, SC

At the January chapter meeting Jim Thomas from Camden, SC was the guest speaker. His presentation was on the M1857 12lb Napoleon Cannon & Limber he built himself. He spoke on the history of the piece and the process it took to fire the weapon.



A very informative and detailed program



M1857 12lb Napoleon Cannon & Limber



Chapter President Ernie Hales presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Jim Thomas.

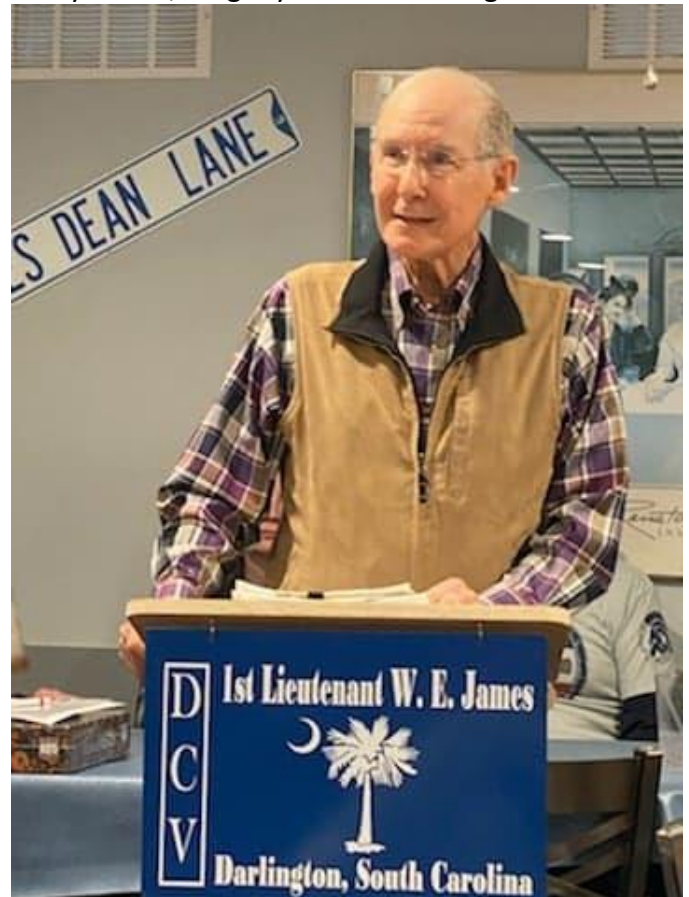
1st Lt. W.E. JAMES CHAPTER, DARLINGTON, SC



Bonnie Loupo was sworn into the DCV by chapter President Ernie Hales. Bonnie's ancestor was Private Edward H. Dutton, Co. H 43rd North Carolina Infantry.

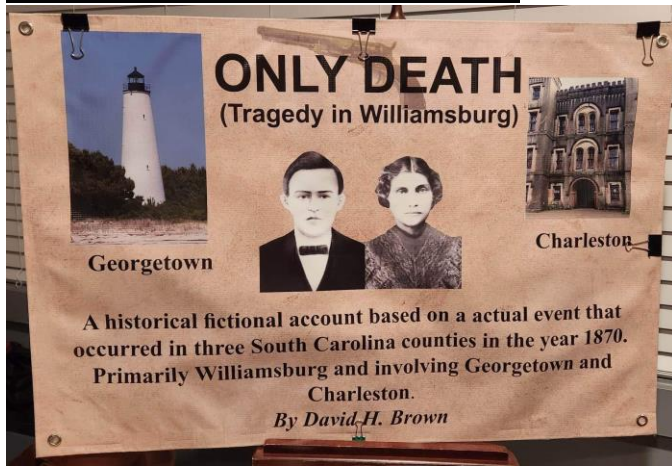
February James Chapter Meeting

Guest speaker was Author David H. Brown. He gave an excellent presentation on his book "Only Death, Tragedy in Williamsburg".



The book is based on a story he was told over a half century ago by his grandfather.

February James Chapter Meeting cont.



Author David H. Brown's book is available online <https://www.amazon.com/Only-Death-Williamsburg-David-Brown/dp/1644718758>

February James Chapter Meeting cont.



Dave Shipes is presented with his Associate Membership Certificate from President Ernie Hales.

Olanta Collard Cook Off Festival

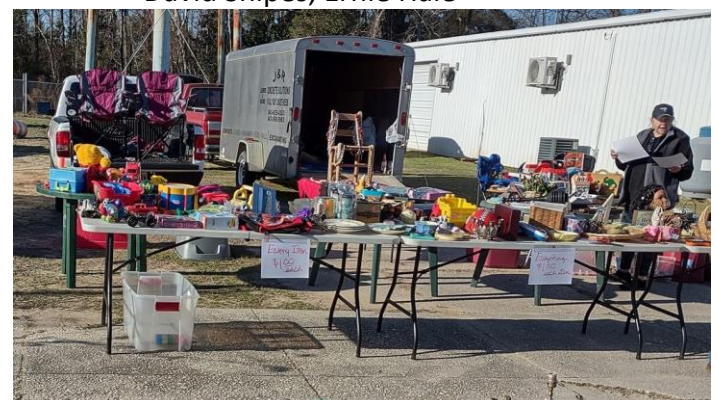
Several James chapter members participated in the Olanta, SC Collard Cook Off Festival as a vendor in the yard sale category.



President Ernie Hales presented Patrick Coxe & Joseph Matheson with Certificates of Appreciation for their many donations to the chapter during the last few years.



Bonnie Loupo, Mike Loupo
David Snipes, Ernie Hale



Elaine Frye pricing everything at \$1.00

Olanta Collard Cook Off Festival cont.



Dave Shipes, Bob Jones, Elaine Frye, Ernie Hales, Mike Loupo, & Bonnie Loupo Chapter President reported "a whopping \$126" was raised. FINE JOB James Chapter!

Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site

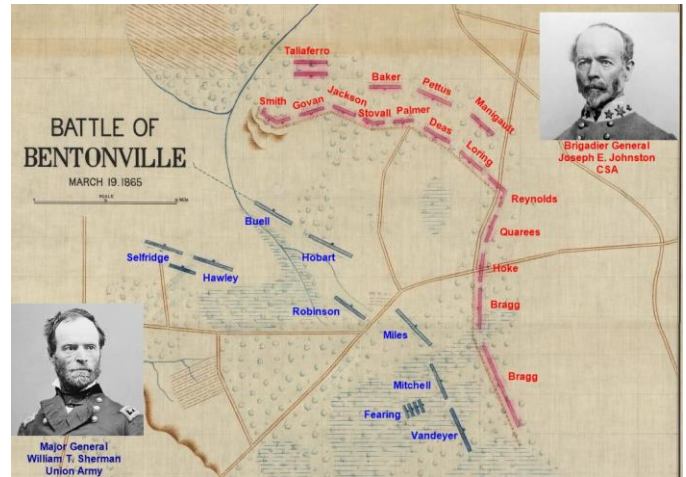
Bentonville Members of the 1st Lt W.E.James Chapter visited the site on March 18th in commemoration of the 158th anniversary of the battle.



Attending were Bob Jones' granddaughter Kelly and her friend Adam, Ernie Hales, Zachary Brafford, Noah Brafford. Doc Owens not pictured We give guest Adam a pass for showing up in blue.

Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site cont.

From March 19-21, 1865, severely outnumbered, Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston's 21,000 troops attacked Union General Sherman's 60,000 in the Battle of Bentonville, the last large-scale battle of the Civil War.

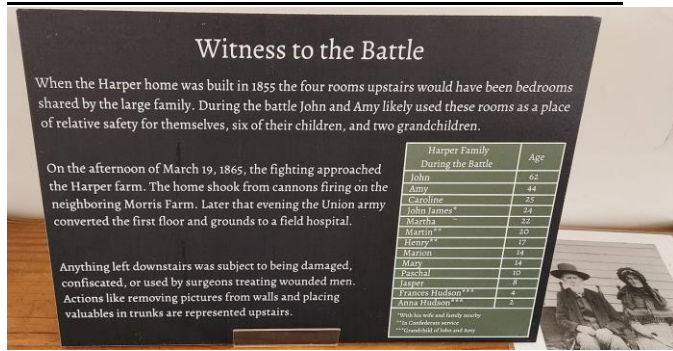


After fighting to a standstill on the 19th and skirmishing throughout the 20th, Confederate casualties were more than 2,600 compared to more than 1,500 union casualties. General Johnston decided to stay on the battlefield with what remained of his army. However, by the 21st, Major General Joseph A. Mower's division threatened Johnson's only route of retreat forcing his retreat.



The farm home of John and Amy Harper, built in the late 1850s, played a key role in the Battle of Bentonville, March 19-21, 1865. Occupied by Union troops on the first day of fighting, the house served as a field hospital for Sherman's XIV Army Corps. Over 500 wounded soldiers, including 45 Confederates.

Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site cont.



Operating Room

2023 DCV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Officers

President

Steve Lucas

Vice President

Ernie Hales

Secretary/Treasurer

Samuel Bennett

Membership Chairman

Carl Hedges

Board Members

Terry Ayers

Larry Joe Reynolds

Steve von Roeder

Todd Smith

Special Officers (appointed)

Steve von Roeder: Chaplain

Carl Hedges: Registrar

Terry Ayers: PIO/Communications

Caren Lee: Web Site Administrator

Descendants of Confederate Veterans

Texas Association

501 (c) (3)

Non-profit organization

Mission Statement:

To establish and maintain an honorable, non-racist Southern heritage and history organization dedicated to perpetuation of the memory and spirit of the Confederate Soldiers and Sailors who served their country during the War Between the States, 1861-1865.

Life Memberships are available

Life Members do not pay

annual association dues

Age 18-59 years \$ 300.00

Age 60-69 years \$ 200.00

Age 70-79 years \$ 100.00

Age 80 + years \$ 50.00

Contact Carl Hedges Jr.

DCV Registrar: cfhedges@sbcglobal.net

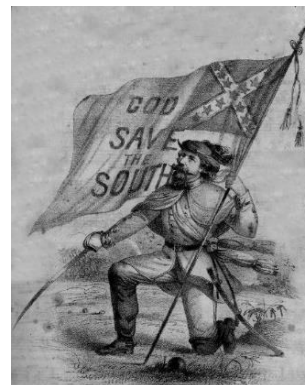
The 2023 Summer Edition of the DCV TRAVELLER will be sent to members June 21, 2023

IMPORTANT: If you change your email address or USPS mailing address PLEASE inform the Editor of the change to ensure that you will continue to receive the DCV TRAVELLER and all other important DCV correspondence.

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mototerry@sbcglobal.net

DCV Web Site Link: www.DCVTX.org



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